

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 EB-04 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6179

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LONDON POUCH BELFAST

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS EI UK (NI)

SUBJ: IRISHMEN IN LIBYA HAVE TALKS ON OIL AND ARMS

1. DUBLIN PAPERS MORNING NOVEMBER 15 REPORT THAT THREE GROUPS FROM IRELAND (NORTH AND SOUTH) HAVE BEEN IN LIBYA TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF LIBYAN INVESTMENT IN IRISH OFF-SHORE OIL WELLS AND LIBYAN SUPPLY OF ARMS TO PROVISIONAL IRA. STORIES ARE CONFUSED, WITH SOME DETAILS APPARENTLY MISSING. MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPANT IN TALKS WAS APPARENTLY A NEW GROUP CALLED THE "DEVELOPMENT OF IRISH RESOURCES

ORGANIZATION," LEAD BY A SOUTHERN BANKER CALLED WALTER J. HEGARTY. HEGARTY HAS TOLD PRESS THAT HIS RECENTLY-FORMED ORGANIZATION FOUND LIBYAN OFFICIALS INTERESTED IN HELPING DEVELOP OIL DEPOSITSOFF IRISH COAST.

2. ACCORDING TO SAME REPORTS, REPRESENTATIVES OF ULSTER DEFENSE ORGANIZATION (UDA), A PROTESTANT EXTREMIST
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ORGANIZATION FROM NI, WERE ALSO INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN

TALKS. NOT CLEAR WHETHER INITIATIVE WAS FROM LIBYA OR FROM
HEGARTY. APPARENT PURPOSE OF INVITATION TO UDA WAS TO IN-
VOLVE NORTHERNERS AS WELL AS SOUTHERNERS IN DISCUSSIONS
OF RESOURCE-DEVELOPMENT. (COMMENT: IT IS PERHAPS NOT NECESSARY
TO ADD THAT THIS SOUNDS LIKE A HAIR-BRAINED MIXTURE OF OIL AND
EXTREMIST POLITICS. WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN TO UNTANGLE DETAILS
HERE, BUT EXPECT SOME DIFFICULTY.
MOORE

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